



Alaska Interagency  
Coordination Center



# Morning Highlights

July 24, 2009  
Morning Highlights 2009-39  
Time: 12:00 pm

Contact:  
Public Affairs (907) 356-5511  
Report Fires: (800) 237-3633

## Wildland Fire Update

Four new fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center Thursday. The **Galena VOR Fire** and the **Hunter Lake Fire** were both lightning caused fires located in the Galena Zone. A Helitack crew and 16 smokejumpers responded to the Galena VOR Fire and contained the fire to 8 acres, The Hunter Lake Fire was reported as 1 acres burning in tussock. It is being monitored. The **Paddle Fire** is a lightning caused fire in the Upper Yukon Zone, limited management option. It is 1.5 acres burning in black spruce. It is being monitored. The **Taurus Fire** was reported as a .1 acre lightning caused fire on Taurus Road. DOF responded and contained and controlled the fire.

As of 9 am Friday, the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center had tallied 441 fires and **1,389,545.6** acres burned this year. 13 fires are staffed and 69 fires are active across Alaska. At this time last year, 327 fires had burned 79,319.2 acres.

**Fire Growth:** The Wood River 1 Fire about 27 miles south of Fairbanks grew from 29,039.8 acres 38,000 acres. No growth was reported for the Minto Flats South Fire near Nenana and stands at 244,718 acres. However, dry conditions and southerly winds are expected to persist for the next several days and fire activity is expected to continue. Smoke from one or both fires is expected to drift into Fairbanks and other interior communities periodically.

The Little Black One Fire grew from 161,000 acres to 177,000 acres due to spotting caused by local winds and dry fuels. The Zitziana Fire grew from 89,426 acres to 100,486 acres and smokejumpers have implemented cabin protection measures and protective burnouts at Wein, West Twin and Wilderness Lakes. Weather conditions are generally expected to remain warm and dry across interior Alaska into next week. Isolated thunderstorms are expected across a portion of northern interior.

### Fire Information Phone Numbers:

For updated information about the **Wood River 1** Fire near Fairbanks, call **907-388-7526**.

For updated information about the **Railbelt Complex fires** which includes the Minto Flats South Fire, Lunch Lake Fire and the June Creek Fire, call the Fire Information Office at **907-378-3843**. A Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) assumed control of the fire at 0700 Thursday. The new Incident Command Post is located at

the Nenana Airport. Additional information about the fire is being posted at: [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org).

For updated information about the Shanta Creek fire, contact the Kenai Refuge at **907-262-7021** or the Alaska Division of Forestry at **907-260-4262**. A Type 3 organization has assumed operational control of the fire and fire resources are being demobilized as the fire comes under containment. Fire information is posted at [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) and <http://kenai.fws.gov>. Email can be addressed to [r7shanta@fws.gov](mailto:r7shanta@fws.gov).

For updated information about the Chakina Fire, call the Chakina Fire Information Office at **907-529-0511** or the National Park Service Office in Anchorage at **907-644-3414**. Email for the Chakina Fire may be sent to: [ChakinaFireInfo@gmail.com](mailto:ChakinaFireInfo@gmail.com). Fire information is also posted at [www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/firemanagement.htm](http://www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/firemanagement.htm)

News releases, the daily Situation Report and additional information about these and other fires in Alaska, including maps, are posted at: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov>

**Red Flag Warning** is in effect until 10 pm Thursday for strong winds in the Deltana and Tanana Flats. Specific information about the Red Flag Warnings and weather can be found at: <http://afshome/predsvcs/weather.php>

### Staffed Fires

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
<b><i>Railbelt Complex</i></b>			Type 3 Incident Mgt. Team
			Chena Hotshots
			Fairbanks #2 Type 2 crew
			Fairbanks #3 Type 2 crew
<b>Fires in Complex</b>			142 personnel in Complex
Minto Flats South	12 mi west of Nenana	244,718 acres	
Lunch Lake	20 mi. NW of Nenana	8,339 acres	
June Creek	21 miles NW of Healy	164 acres	
<b>Other Fires</b>			
Rock Slough	50 mi. NE of Ft. Yukon	24,000acres	109 personnel
			Beaver/Stevens Village Type 2 crew
			Allakaket #2 Type 2 crew
			North Star Type 2 crew
			St. Michaels Type 2 crew

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Little Black One	18 mi. NE of Circle	177,000 acres	55 personnel
			Venetie #2 Type 2 crew
			Midnight Sun Hotshots
Muskeg Creek	92 mi. SW of McGrath	43.5 acres	30 personnel
			Yukon Type 2IA crew

Zitziana	53 mi. W of Anderson	100,486.7 acres	37 personnel
Chakina	13 mi. S of McCarthy	31,327 acres	89 personnel
			Augusta Hotshots
			Pioneer Peak Hotshots
Shanta Creek	Off Funny River Road	13,221 acres	33 personnel ordered
	Kenai		Type 3 IMT
			Denali Type 2IA
Wood River 1	27 mi. S of Fairbanks	38,000 acres	3 personnel
Broken Snowshoe	3 mi. N of McGrath	25,345 acres	17 personnel
Sheenjek	46 mi. NE of Ft. Yukon	45,397.1 acres	21 personnel
			Ft. Yukon #3 Type 2 crew
Big Creek	60 mi. SW of Ft. Yukon	5,550 acres	8 personnel
Bear Creek	58 mi. W of Healy	40,857.8 acres	4 personnel
Galena VOR		8 acres	20 personnel

Air Quality information for the Fairbanks North Star Borough is posted at: <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>. For July 24 at 11 am, the air quality was reported as moderate due to smoke from wildland fires.

To learn about protecting yourself from smoke, visit: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>

For daily fire information, please visit: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf> and for a map of fire locations, click on "Fire Information" at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>

## Additional References

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
  - Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
  - Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
  - National Fire Situation: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
  - Guide to Wildland Fire Suppression in AK:  
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/news/psa/Media%20Guide%20to%20AK%20Wildland%20Fire%20Suppression.pdf>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Creating Defensible Space: <http://firewise.org/> and <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm>
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire/>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: [www.muni.org/fire](http://www.muni.org/fire)
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

*AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers (Alaska Division of Forestry) and Doug Stockdale (BLM Alaska Fire Service).*

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